



American Guild of Organists

Chartered 1896

European Chapter

Chartered 1979

Newsletter October 2013

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The Dean's Corner

Dear European Chapter Members,

With autumn in full swing, it's not surprising that leaves are swirling around in the air on this Sunday afternoon in early November in Holland. What a lovely atmosphere in which to write a few lines to you, our members who live all around Europe, in Australia and the USA. I bring you greetings from your European Chapter board members who met at the end of September to discuss the business of the Chapter. And although the plan was to send off news to you in our quarterly European Chapter October newsletter in October, we're happy we waited until today because now you'll be able to read more of the anticipated details about our Spring Meeting 2014, as well as news about your fellow AGO members on both sides of the Atlantic.

First, let me thank Fabrice Muller, the organizer of our Spring Meeting 2014 in France, in Alsace-Lorraine. Fabrice has been working overtime already to prepare for our SPECIAL time together in his home region during the week after Easter. PLEASE think about attending the meeting this time around. It is such a wonderful experience for all who attend. And who are they? It's always an international mix of young and older, men and women, professional organists, amateur organists, non-organists (!), friends and spouses of participants, organ fans, singers, choral and orchestral conductors, theologians and others interested in music, churches, architecture, travel and food! Obviously the welcome is open to **all** interested in meeting other AGO members and making new friends.

A second meeting point for AGO members in 2014 is the National AGO Convention in July in Boston. Attending a National Convention is another unforgettable experience of meeting and making new friends, attending amazing workshops and concerts in cities around the USA. I've already heard of several European Chapter members who plan to attend the Boston National Convention. Exciting! Let's get together for breakfast in Boston!

A third "happening" for members of the European Chapter in 2014 is still in the planning stages but will be announced very soon. Just so you know, a sideline to this event will be a time to gather and celebrate **the 35th Anniversary of the European Chapter**. Started in 1979 by a small group of American military chapel organists, the European Chapter has grown to over 100 organists and organ friends from around the world. The Chapter may be proud!

With warm autumn greetings,

Judy

The Secretary's Voice

Dear Members,

Meetings, planning, calendars, etc. I'm sure that most of us are very busy with all of these things in addition to our actual work of practicing, rehearsing and otherwise preparing for the upcoming holidays. It may be a welcome change of pace to think about a time and space without duties and responsibilities – like the Spring Meeting ! Read about this and many other interesting things going on !

Bernard

**Please submit your items for the next
Newsletter before Dec. 20th !**

News from the Board

European Chapter AGO Address changes

Please note that the following e-mail addresses are formulated with (at) in place of @. This is to foil the efforts of electronic "phishing" for such information on-line. In order to use the addresses please insert the @ before adding them to your address book. Thank you !

William Hurt has moved to Seattle. His new e-mail address:

[hurtw\(at\)icloud.com](mailto:hurtw(at)icloud.com)

Please delete the old address:

Hurtw(at)onlinehome.de

In case you haven't changed them yet:

Dean Judy Riefel-Lindel

New e-mail address:

[judith.riefellindel\(at\)upcmail.nl](mailto:judith.riefellindel(at)upcmail.nl)

delete both previous e-mail addresses:

@wanadoo.nl and @online.nl

Secretary and Newsletter Editor

New e-mail address:

[bernard.sanders\(at\)web.de](mailto:bernard.sanders(at)web.de)

delete previous e-mail address:

[Bernard.sanders\(at\)t-online.de](mailto:Bernard.sanders(at)t-online.de)

The Spring Meeting 2014

begins with the opening dinner on Easter Monday evening, April 21st and ends with the closing dinner on Friday, April 25th. Fabrice Muller is organizing the week for us and sends us this invitation:

Dear fellow organ lovers,

I will be very pleased, next April, to treat you to An Enchanted Glimpse: Organs in Alsace-Lorraine, France. Renaissance, Baroque, Romantic, and Symphonic organs available... French classical ones, too!

Marmoutier, Strasbourg, Metz, and Lunéville are likely to be the most famous places amongst the glimpses ahead in my home region, but, shhh... I shall not tell you more: These lines are only an appetizer. More in the months to come!

My best greetings to you all, and see you in April!

Fabrice Muller

*Exciting! Put the dates on your calendar, start making plans to attend and invite colleagues and friends to come with you! You can read more in the **Appendix** to this Newsletter and more details (especially concerning reservations) in the January newsletter. Don't miss out on this !*

The Editor

European Chapter Web Site !

The web-site can be visited at the

www.agoeurope.eu

See Newsletters from 2000 until present and pictures from the Spring Meeting !

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Support your Board, be an active Member!

Members' News

Barry Jordan gave a recital in the Magdeburg Cathedral for the Albert Schweitzer year on the October 4th. It was well attended and raised over a thousand Euros for Lambarene. He played the program that Schweitzer himself played in

the Johanniskirche in Magdeburg in 1929 (Bach and Mendelssohn) and his own new piece "Letters from Lambarene". Anybody interested can download it at

www.barryjordan.de/Lambarene.pdf

In January-February he will be, US immigration authorities permitting, in the USA for 3 weeks. There he will be teaching a master-class and playing a recital at Notre Dame University at South Bend, Indiana, doing the same and also lecturing on Thuringian organs in the 18th century at the Festival of organ and piano at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, AL, and playing a recital on the Beckerath organ in Nashville, TN.

Dr. Jens Korndoerfer recently had the great pleasure of performing in the beautiful Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis. Organlive.com broadcasted his concert live, and set up links with a couple of videos from the concert:

- Charles Tournemire: Victimae paschali
- Ludwig van Beethoven: Andante con moto from the 5th Symphony, arr. for organ by Jens Korndoerfer
- Joh. Seb. Bach: Introduction and fugue (BWV 21), arr for organ by Franz Liszt

Jens writes:

"It was a real treat to play the large Wicks organ in the magnificent acoustic of the Basilica, and to add wonderful surround effects thanks to the Gallery and Dome organs - unfortunately, you won't be able to hear these online, but I hope you will enjoy the powerful and sublime sounds of this beautiful organ nonetheless!"

"Le grand orgue (IV/125) n'est pas de Cavaillé-Coll, mais l'acoustique de la Basilique donne l'impression qu'on est dans une cathédrale française..."

„Die vier Schwellwerke und die vielen Klangfarben der großen Orgel (inklusive Chororgel und Fernwerk!) sind perfekt geeignet für die Interpretation von Orchesterwerken - und die Kathedralakustik ist optimal für Tournemire! „

Yours, Bien à vous, Herzliche Grüße

Ann Elise Smoot and her husband moved at the end of July to the following address:

23 The Cloisters
Windsor Castle
Windsor
SL4 1NJ
Berkshire
UK

The mobile phone numbers remain the same

(0)7956 682959 (AES)

(0)7966 497204 (JV)

Her husband James started his new job as Director of Music at St George's Chapel in the castle on September 1st as successor to **Tim Byram-Wigfield**.

Bernard Sanders has been commissioned to compose a work for the dedication of a new instrument by John Bennett Early Keyboard Instruments of Westerly, Rhode Island. The instrument has only 2 stops: an 8' Principal and a 4' Flute. The four-movement "**Sonata da camera**" was commissioned and was premiered on October 12th by Carson Cooman, Composer in Residence at the Memorial Church, Harvard University.

Introducing Our Members

Ian Pattinson joined the European Chapter of the AGO in 2012, and has so far been on two spring meetings (York 2012 and Magdeburg 2013). He has lived in England all his life.

Born in Lancaster in 1976, but brought-up in Kendal, Ian sang as a chorister at Kendal Parish Church. From 1994 to 1998 he studied organ at Birmingham Conservatoire, where he gained a BA (Hons) and a Postgraduate Diploma, both in Music. He also became a Fellow of the Royal College of Organists in 2002. His organ tutors have included Joan Swindlehurst, James Wishart-Hodgson, Adrian Self, David Bruce-Payne and Prof David Sanger.

Ian has held positions as Organ Scholar at Birmingham and Blackburn Cathedrals, and also Assistant Organist at the latter.

Since 2001, he has been Organist at Lancaster Priory, where there are choirs of boys, girls and men, as well as a youth choir and a congregational choir. Ian's role primarily involves playing for services, concerts and recitals, but he also directs the congregational choir (the Director of Music runs the other choirs). Ian is also an organ recitalist, organ and piano accompanist, teacher of organ and piano, occasional composer, and keen improviser on the organ.

As an organ accompanist, Ian has worked with numerous choirs in north-west England, including ones that are part of the Royal School of Church Music.

Past organ recital venues have included the Temple Church in London, Halifax Minster, Cartmel Priory, Pembroke College Oxford, and the cathedrals of Carlisle, Birmingham, Liverpool Anglican, and Blackburn.

Ian is still very excited about working at Lancaster Priory, due to the recently installed pipe organ, that comprises two divisions using historic second-hand instruments by Willis and Harrison, and was dedicated by the Archbishop of York in 2012.

Matthias Mück was born in Mainz in 1967. He started playing the piano at the age of six. He started singing as a boy soprano in the children's and youth choir of Mainz, which was to influence his career as a church musician for the coming 15 years. He acquired more advanced instruction in piano at the Peter-Cornelius Conservatory in Mainz and as a student of concert pianist Wilhelm Ohmen. In the years 1982 - 1985, he studied Catholic church music at the Episcopal Church Music Institute of Mainz (C-exam).

In 1983, Mück was appointed to his first organist's position at the Catholic church of St. Bonifatius in Mainz, where he also took over the church choir in 1990.

From 1990 to 1998, Mück studied Catholic church music, later also music pedagogy and organ at the Johannes-Gutenberg University in Mainz with

Professor Peter A. Stadtmüller as his mentor, and improvisation with Hans-Jürgen Kaiser (B-exam, 1994). Starting in October 1994, he did advanced studies in church music at the State Academy of Music and Performing Arts in Frankfurt am Main where his teachers were Professor Dr Reinhardt Mengerin and Professor Lücker. He passed the A-exam in 1998. Between March 1997 and January 2000, he was employed by the church of St. John the Apostle in Frankfurt am Main-Unterliedebach, where he founded a new concert series. 1998 Mück started conducting the Catholic church choir of St. Martin's in Hattersheim am Main.

From March 1997 to January 2000, Mück was the second choir master and vocal coach of the choir of the City of Wiesbaden. Since the summer break of 1999, Mück did advanced studies in organ improvisation at the Johannes Gutenberg University in Mainz with Professor Hans-Jürgen Kaiser (Cathedral organist of Fulda).

In December 2001, Mück passed with distinction the concert exam in organ improvisation at the Johannes-Gutenberg University in Mainz. His special interests are organ improvisation and "early music".

He has participated twice in the International Organ Academy of Nordrhein-Westfalen in Altenberg where he polished his skills in improvisation with renowned international organists.

In February 2000, Matthias Mück was appointed music director (cantor and organist) at St Sebastian's cathedral in Magdeburg. He gives organ concerts regularly in his homeland as well as abroad and is sought after as an accompanist for oratorio concerts (Continuo). In the diocese of Magdeburg he is senior lecturer of church music for the instruction of part-time church musicians (C-course). His subjects are music history, choir conducting, and organ. He is a member of the Episcopal liturgy committee of the diocese of Magdeburg and an elected official in the subcommittee of the diocesan council for a new hymnal. In

2001 he joined the faculty at the Georg Philipp Telemann Conservatory in Magdeburg as an instructor for organ. Since the beginning of 2007, he has been an organ consultant for the diocese of Magdeburg.

In each issue we'd like to introduce another member. Send us your resumé for inclusion!

News from HQ

**2014 National Convention in Boston
Great City·Wonderful Music·Inspired
Learning · Compelling Instruments ·
Gracious Hospitality · June 23-27
REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN !**

On behalf of the Steering Committee, Ray Cornils, Convention Coordinator, extends a warm invitation to attend the 2014 National Convention in Boston.

Centered in Boston's Back Bay, within easy walking to many of our great churches, this 4 ½ day convention will inspire and thrill with a diversity of instruments – from Meantone to WurliTzer – played by an outstanding international roster of organists. It will feature many recently installed instruments in addition to a long list of landmark organs.

We will not only feature great organs, but outstanding choral concerts, many commissioned works, a diverse array of worship opportunities, and stimulating workshops.

The convention is created for you to be comfortably paced. Celebrate your choices. We encourage you to register before January 31, 2014 to take advantage of discounted rates. Register online now at regonline.com/agoboston2014

to ensure your choices. Registration by paper is available using the form in the October issue of *The American Organist*.

The Marriott Copley place is our convention headquarters hotel. You may register for hotel reservations through the Marriott's online system at:

<https://aws.passkey.com/reg/326GFM29-G682>

or by calling the hotel directly at

800.228.9290.

Ask for the AGO 2014 Convention rate of \$195/night when calling.

If you have any questions, please contact us at info@agoboston2014.org. We will respond quickly to your inquiries. New England beckons you to join us for an inspirational week.

Ray Cornils
Convention Coordinator

AGO RECEIVES GENEROUS SPONSORSHIP FROM COLUMBUS STATE UNIVERSITY'S JORDAN ORGAN ENDOWMENT

New York City. The American Guild of Organists is proud to announce a new partnership formed with the Jordan Organ Endowment of Columbus State University (GA). The Jordan Endowment's commitment of \$105,000 over ten years (2013–2022) will support the AGO's National Young Artists Competition in Organ Performance (NYACOP) and Pipe Organ Encounters (POE) for youth in the Southeastern States.

"We at the Jordan Organ Endowment are truly excited by this partnership with the AGO in supporting programs that both bring new people to the organ and that nurture those who are already studying to perfect their artistry at the instrument," declared Joseph Golden, University Organist and Associate Director of the Schwob School of Music at Columbus State University. "The documented impact created by the POE program has captured the attention of the Jordan Organ Endowment; we are so pleased to assist in this most worthy endeavor that brings so many young musicians to a greater understanding and appreciation of the King of Instruments. The long-term relationship that has now begun between the Jordan Organ Endowment and the AGO helps ensure that the POE program and the NYACOP will continue to encourage young organists, both beginners and those more advanced, for many years to come."

"The AGO is grateful to the Jordan Organ Endowment for its generous support

of two of our most cherished educational and competition programs,” added AGO Executive Director James Thomashower. “Pipe Organ Encounters and NYACOP have an international appeal; each one attracts some of the brightest young keyboard players and most talented organists of their generation.”

Pipe Organ Encounters (POE) is an introduction to the pipe organ through instruction in organ playing, repertoire, history, design, and construction. These regional summer organ music institutes for teenage students provide private and group instruction in service playing and solo repertoire, opportunities to learn about the musical heritage of various religious denominations, and a chance for young musicians to meet others with similar interests. Since POEs were begun in 1988, thousands of students have participated in the program. Many have progressed to win top awards in organ competitions and college scholarship programs throughout the U.S. and abroad.

The National Young Artists Competition in Organ Performance (NYACOP) promotes the highest level of organ performance. Established in 1950 and held biennially, the competition is open to AGO members in good standing between the ages of 22 and 32. The NYACOP serves as a springboard for emerging young organists, allowing them to develop their performance ability by participating in the various demanding stages of this competition. As the premiere organ competition in America, the NYACOP sets the standard for the most talented organists seeking to demonstrate their skill in organ performance. Past winners of the NYACOP include men and women who are some of the most visible organists today: recitalists, recording artists, and those who now hold prominent posts in colleges, conservatories, universities, and religious institutions.

Ranked among the top regional universities in the South by U.S. News & World Report, Columbus State University offers nationally distinctive programs in

the arts, education, business, nursing and more. CSU provides a creative, deeply personal and relevant college experience. Serving the Southeast while attracting students from around the world, Columbus State thrives on community partnerships to deliver excellence for students who want to achieve personal and professional success in an increasingly global environment. Just 100 miles southwest of Atlanta, Columbus State University is part of the University System of Georgia, enrolling more than 8,200 students in a wide variety of degree programs, from online degrees to a doctorate in education. CSU’s Schwob School of Music of has become one of the leading and fastest-growing university-level music programs in the southeast. Working in some of the nation’s most impressive teaching and performance spaces, the accomplished artist faculty of the Schwob School of Music serve an internationally diverse student population.

Stateside News

reprinted from the “Wichita Eagle”

Organist Christopher Shaw in Recital AGO Commissioned Work to be Premiered Oct. 6th

At 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 6, the Wichita Chapter of the American Guild of Organists and Plymouth Congregational Church will present Plymouth Organist Christopher Shaw in an organ recital on the Schantz pipe organ at the Church, 202 N. Clifton Ave. in Wichita. The program is open to the public, free of charge; and a reception in the Fellowship Hall will follow the concert.

A featured work will be Bernard Wayne Sanders’ new organ composition, *Prelude, Recitative, & Fugue*, commissioned by the Wichita Chapter AGO in honor of Irene Shaw and her over twenty years as director of the Chapter’s popular children’s pipe organ project, *POPs for KIDS*.

Composer Bernard Sanders obtained his Master’s Degree in Organ Performance at WSU in 1983; and after further postgraduate study at the Hochschule für

Musik in Hamburg, he has remained active as a church musician and composer in southern Germany. The catalog of Sanders' published works is extensive, and his composition "Ornament of Grace" for organ and oboe won a 2008 national AGO composition contest. It has been performed widely throughout the United States and Europe. He also serves as Secretary of the European Chapter AGO.

In addition to the Sanders première, Mr. Shaw's recital will include music of J.S. Bach, Felix Mendelssohn, Robert Lau, and Emma Lou Diemer. With the Lau and Diemer hymn-based compositions, the

assembly will have opportunity to sing two of the hymns as well.

Christopher Shaw holds a master's degree in Choral Conducting from WSU; and from Bethel College, a bachelor's degree in Organ Performance. He has studied organ with Lynne Davis, Shirley Sprunger King, Roseann Penner Kaufman, and Ken Rodgers. In addition to his duties as Organist at Plymouth, Shaw is currently the 7th-8th grade Vocal Music Instructor for the Hutchinson Public Schools. (On December 8, he is also scheduled to conduct the Reno Choral Society in Lessons & Carols at First Presbyterian in Hutchinson.)

Recitals Past and Present

*You can advertise here for your concert engagements to come as well as report those past.
Please submit items for the next Newsletter !*

- | | | | |
|------------------------|---------|---|--|
| Sept. 15 th | 7 PM | Bernard Sanders, Organ | St. Nikolaus, Reichenbach/ Heuberg (D) |
| | | with the Gregorian Chant Schola Spaichingen, directed by Georg Fehrenbacher.
Works by Händel, Purcell, J.C.F. Fischer, Isfridus Kayser, and Friedrich Schmoll
on the meantone Organ by Hieronymus Spiegel from 1763 | |
| Oct. 28 th | 7 PM | Agnes Goerke, Organ | St. Stephani, Helmstedt (D) |
| | | Works by Bach, Böhm, Elgar, Guilmant | |
| Nov. 2 nd | 8 PM | Agnes Goerke, Organ | St. Martini, Brelingen (D) |
| | | Works by Bach, Howells, Reger, Mendelssohn, Bunk, Diemel, Schumann, Merikanto | |
| 2014 | | | |
| Jan. 1 st | 6:30 PM | Barry Jordan, Organ | Cathedral, Magdeburg (D) |
| | | Messiaen, La Nativité | |
| Jan. 19 th | 5:45 PM | Martin Welzel, Organ | Westminster Abbey, London (UK) |

Every Saturday (11:30)	Organ Music at Market Time	Marktkirche, Wiesbaden (D)
	Hans Uwe Hielscher and guest organists from around the world	

